CLAIMS

What is Claimed is:

1. A wet wipe comprising:

a fibrous material;

a binder composition for binding said fibrous material into an integral web, said binder composition comprising a triggerable cationic polymer; and

said fibrous material being wetted by a wetting solution containing at least about 0.5 weight percent of a divalent metal salt which is capable of forming a complex anion.

2. The wet wipe of Claim 1, wherein said divalent metal salt is selected from ZnX_2, MgX_2, and CaX_2, wherein X is a halogen atom.

3. The wet wipe of Claim 2, wherein said halogen atom is selected from Cl, Br and I.

4. The wet wipe of Claim 1, wherein said divalent metal salt is selected from $ZnCl_2$, $MgCl_2$, and $CaCl_2$.

5. The wet wipe of Claim 1, wherein said polymer comprises a cationic monomer and at least one water insoluble, hydrophobic monomer.

6. The wet wipe of Claim 5, where said cationic monomer is selected from [2-(methacryloyloxy)ethyl] trimethyl ammonium chloride, (3-acrylamidopropyl) trimethylammonium chloride, N,N-diallyldimethylammonium chloride, acryloxyethyltrimethyl ammonium chloride,

acryloxyethyldimethylbenzyl ammonium chloride, methacryloxyethyldimethyl ammonium chloride, methacryloxyethyltrimethylbenzyl ammonium chloride and quaternized vinyl pyridine.

7. The wet wipe of Claim 5, wherein said water insoluble hydrophobic monomer is selected from n-butyl acrylate and 2-ethylhexyl acrylate.

8. The wet wipe of Claim 5, wherein said water insoluble hydrophobic monomer is selected from n-alkyl, branched alkyl, acrylamide, and acrylic esters.

9. The wet wipe of Claim 5, wherein said water insoluble hydrophobic monomer is an n-alkyl or branched vinyl function monomer.

10. The wet wipe of Claim 5 further comprising a hydrophilic or water-soluble nonionic monomer.

11. The wet wipe of Claim 10, wherein said hydrophilic or water-soluble nonionic monomer is selected from acrylamide, methacrylamide, substituted acrylamide, substituted methacrylamides, hydroxyalkyl acrylates, hydroxyalkyl methacrylates, polyethyleneglycol acrylates, polyethyleneglycol methacrylates, and vinyl pyrrolidone.

12. A wet wipe comprising:

a fibrous material;

a binder composition for binding said fibrous material into an integral web, said binder composition comprising a polymer of

[2-(methacryloyloxy)ethyl] trimethyl ammonium chloride, n-butyl acrylate and 2-ethylhexyl acrylate; and

said fibrous material being wetted by a wetting solution containing at least about 0.5 weight percent divalent metal salt that is capable of forming a complex anion.

13. The wet wipe of Claim 12, wherein said divalent metal salt is selected from $ZnCl_2$, $MgCl_2$, and $CaCl_2$.

14. A method of making a wet wipe comprising:

forming a substrate of fibrous material;

applying to said substrate a binder composition for said fibrous material comprising a cationic polymer; and

applying to said substrate a wetting solution containing at least about 0.5 weight percent divalent metal salt that is capable of forming a complex anion.

15. The method of Claim 14, wherein said divalent metal salt is selected from ZnX_2, MgX_2, and CaX_2, wherein X is a halogen atom.

16. The method of Claim 14, wherein said halogen atom is selected from Cl, Br and I.

17. The method of Claim 14, wherein said divalent metal salt is selected from $ZnCl_2$, $MgCl_2$, and $CaCl_2$.

18. The method of Claim 14, wherein said cationic polymer comprises a cationic monomer and at least one water insoluble, hydrophobic monomer.

19. The method of Claim 18, where said cationic monomer is selected from [2-(methacryloyloxy)ethyl] trimethyl ammonium chloride, (3-Acrylamidopropyl) trimethylammonium chloride, N,N-diallyldimethylammonium chloride, acryloxyethyltrimethyl ammonium chloride, acryloxyethyldimethylbenzyl ammonium chloride, methacryloxyethyldimethyl ammonium chloride, methacryloxyethyltrimethylbenzyl ammonium chloride and quaternized vinyl pyridine.

20. The method of Claim 18, wherein said water insoluble hydrophobic monomer is selected from n-butyl acrylate and 2-ethylhexyl acrylate.

21. The method of Claim 18, wherein said water insoluble hydrophobic monomer is selected from n-alkyl, branched alkyl, acrylamide, and acrylic esters.

22. The method of Claim 18, wherein said water insoluble hydrophobic monomer is an n-alkyl or branched vinyl function monomer.

23. The method of Claim 18 further comprising a hydrophilic or water-soluble nonionic monomer.

24. The method of Claim 23, wherein said hydrophilic or water-soluble nonionic monomer is selected from acrylamide, methacrylamides, substituted acrylamides, substituted methacrylamides, hydroxyalkyl acrylates, hydroxyalkyl methacrylates, polyethyleneglycol acrylates, polyethyleneglycol methacrylates, and vinyl pyrrolidone.

25. A method of making a wet wipe comprising:

forming a substrate of fibrous material;

applying to said substrate a binder composition for said fibrous material comprising a triggerable cationic polymer and a divalent metal salt that is capable of forming a complex anion; and

applying to said substrate a wetting solution.